

Event Vetting

Government employees, particularly high-level officials like United States Attorneys, are subject to ethical restrictions governing the types of events they may attend. Some restrictions relate to benefits, including luncheons, dinners, awards, and tokens of appreciation they may accept. Other restrictions relate, among other things, to participation in events that are sponsored by persons who do business with or lobby the Government; that have a fundraising component; where it may appear that official attendance is being used to promote the event or the sponsor; or where elected officials may be in attendance. To assist us in vetting compliance with government ethical restrictions, we would appreciate it if you could provide the following information. If you do not have specific information for each response, please provide such general or descriptive information as you currently have. Please do not hesitate to call the Office's Government Ethics Advisor (b)(6), (b)(7)c at (b)(6), (b)(7)c or e-mail him at (b)(6), (b)(7)c to discuss this.

1. Name, date and time, and location of event.

Columbia Law School

Social Justice Initiative's Visitor-from-Government Practice

Tuesday, November 29th

Jerome Greene Hall

435 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027 (just at the corner of Amsterdam Avenue) rm JG 104

Time: 11:30 – 3:30pm (estimated) with the talk from 12:10pm – 1:10pm

2. Format of event (*e.g.*, cocktails; presentations; speeches; and/or meal).

Tentative schedule:

11:30am - arrive at Columbia

11:35 - 11:45 - meet with Dean of the Law School, Gillian Lester

12:10 - 1:10 – Visitor from Government Practice talk - open to the student body

1:15 - 2:15 lunch with select faculty and administrators (chosen in part by the US Attorney)

2:30 - 3:30 - mtgs w/small students groups (again this would be with the input of the US Attorney's preference - e.g. students interested in government, students interested in prosecution, students of color.

3. Estimated cost per attendee of event.

\$0

4. Are any attendees being charged to attend the event? **NO**

a. If so, who (in general) is being offered free attendance, and who is expected to pay?

Social Justice Initiatives (SJI), Columbia Law School provides lunch to the students who attend the talk;

SJI then also would pay for the US Attorney's lunch with faculty and administrators to follow the speech approx. cost: est. \$30/person.

5. Name of entity extending the invitation and link to web site (if any).

Social Justice Initiatives, Columbia Law School

- a. Is the entity extending the invitation registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code?

N/A

6. Sponsor of event if different from above.

- a. Is the sponsor of the event registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code?

N/A

7. Names of additional entities that will be recognized for sponsorship or support of the event.

N/A

8. How many persons are expected to attend?

Between 100 -150 students at the lunchtime talk.

Smaller numbers at the other events.

9. Demographics of expected attendees (*e.g.*, lawyers; law enforcement; business leaders; students; etc.)

Primarily law students, some faculty and administrators.

10. Are any elected officials expected to attend and, if so, what is their expected role?

No.

11. Will there be any political activity at the event (i.e., any activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group, for example, any speeches urging people to vote for or against a particular candidate or political party)?

No.

12. Is there a fundraising component to the event? (e.g., program advertisements; dinner ticket price; silent auction)? If so, please describe.¹ **N/A**

13. Expected role of U.S. Attorney (e.g., simple attendance; remarks; speech)

Speech to the student body about a substantive issue of importance to him that also lets him speak about his own path from CLS law student to US Attorney.

14. If the U.S. Attorney is being honored:

- a. What are the criteria your organization applies to determine who should be honored for this specific award?

Based upon the US Attorney's distinguished career, his commitment to government service and the importance to Columbia Law students of the issues he addresses. The Visitor from Practice series is a significant part of the Law School's initiative to educate and excite students about working in public service.

- b. What is the internal process by which your organization selects potential honorees?

**The Honoree is selected by Dean for Social Justice Initiatives, (b)(6), (b)(7)c
and the Director of Government Programs, (b)(6), (b)(7)c**

- c. For what specific public service or achievement do you wish to honor the U.S. Attorney?

See above.

- d. Did any of the accomplishments of the U.S. Attorney which you wish to honor directly affect the organization or its members? (Describe.)

See above.

- e. Do any of the board members or host committee or senior staff have any matters pending before or involving the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York?

No.

¹ For events that involve any fundraising leading up to or during the event: The United States Attorney may not participate in any active fundraising activity with respect to the event. Nor may the U.S. Attorney allow his name, position, or title to be used for any fundraising activity for your organization. If applicable, you may list his name as an awardee and/or speaker on the program and on invitations issued not more than 30 days prior to the event, along with other information about the program. He may not be listed on any "save the date" notices. Failure to comply with these limitations may preclude the U.S. Attorney from appearing at the event. If the U.S. Attorney is giving an official speech, he may be seated and have photos taken as appropriate for a speaker at the event, but you may not use his photo in connection with any other fundraising efforts.

f. Please provide a description and the value of any award item (if the award item is a plaque, certificate or trophy of little intrinsic value, you may so indicate).
N/A

g. Who else is expected to be honored at the event?
No one else.

15. If the U.S. Attorney is making a presentation, who else is expected to be making a presentation/be on a panel? **No one else other than introductory remarks by Dean of Social Justice Initiatives,** (b)(6), (b)(7)c

- a. Will the U.S. Attorney be presented with a token or memento in appreciation for his presentation?
- i. ☒ Nothing (although Dean (b)(6), (b)(7)c will laud his many achievements).
 - ii. ☐ Plaque or other memento of little intrinsic value
 - iii. ☐ Other. Please describe, including its value.

16. Describe any special seating arrangements for U.S. Attorney, *e.g.*, dais, general seating (depending on the nature of the event, the U.S. Attorney may or may not be able to accept “dais” seating.)

Up to the US Attorney, however, most speakers’ preference is to speak from a podium but we can accommodate any special requests.

17. Promotion of the event: please provide a copy of or link to the invitation/promotional material for the event (or if not available, for the prior year’s event).

To be provided at a later date, once we know the topic the US Attorney wishes to speak about. Also, we will need to know if he wants the Press invited to the event.